



WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

TO THE CALIFORNIA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

IT IS A PRIVILEGE to serve American medicine. You have honored me and my county auxiliary by electing me to serve as your president for the coming year. I pledge you my loyalty.

My theme for the year has been taken from Dr. Charnock's address at our past Fall Conference—"Inform your Membership."

As auxiliary members we have a two-fold service to render: (1) education to ourselves on subjects pertaining to the medical profession, and (2) bringing this message of medicine to our home communities by means of a positive program of action.

We must constantly reevaluate our program to keep pace with the trend of events (and changing values) in the world today. All of us live a more hurried life than ever before. Women all over the nation are busy with a multitude of programs unequaled in our history. Therefore, we should do all in our power to keep our own members interested, informed and eager to serve the auxiliary at all times.

Good programming is a helpful factor in doing this. It is my hope that those who plan the programs will be aware of their scope of influence and their own potential usefulness. Each hour that people are willing to give to attend meetings should be most carefully utilized in the most interesting way and planned to give the utmost in useful information.

There is no safer way of projecting plans for the future than by evaluating our past activities. Our first objective has been and is to cultivate friendliness and promote understanding among physicians' families. We know full well that when people learn to know and like each other and take time to laugh and play together, they can accomplish great things working together.

From this, it follows naturally that, as an auxiliary to the Medical Association, we assist the Association in its program for the advancement of medicine and public health. Therefore, it is helpful if we are acquainted with the problems of the medical profession and can discuss them with persons we meet in our day to day contacts. By so doing, we can often explain the position of organized medicine to those with whom the medical profession has otherwise little contact. For example, in all our efforts to support good legislation, as well as in our attempts to defeat detrimental measures, the members of the Woman's Auxiliary to the California Medical Association have been of invaluable help. We have been helpful in carrying information to the voters of our communities many times

when the physician has been too busy with his practice to do so.

Those of you who have the *privilege* of being here today—as presidents, presidents-elect and delegates from your county auxiliaries and members of the Woman's Auxiliary to the California Medical Association, also have responsibility. With privilege comes responsibility. Your specific one today is to report to those at home the accomplishments and progress of your auxiliary. Just as you have accepted the privilege of membership in your auxiliaries, so we hope you will accept the responsibility of stressing the value of "Informing your Membership."

Each organization is faced with the problem of competing with many other activities for the attention of its membership. Every community has many outlets for the talents of an auxiliary member. Therefore, the appeal of more active participation and acceptance of responsibilities should be stimulated by the effective utilization of the special talents of our auxiliary members; because our strength is measured by our unity of purpose and our effective partnership with the medical profession. This could be done by stressing good program planning; getting interesting programs presented in a variety of ways so that there is a strong desire on the part of our members to participate actively in the work of the auxiliary, to attend its meetings and, when called upon, to become an officer.

Through active participation we may acquire a feeling of belonging. As members of the Auxiliary to the American Medical Association, of the Auxiliary to the California Medical Association and of our county auxiliaries, we should be aware of our great responsibilities. There must be no complacency within the membership of the auxiliary. Without the active participation of individual members there would be no effective organization.

Again, let me thank you. I am grateful for this opportunity to serve the medical profession and the auxiliary. I ask you to join with me in your individual and collective abilities. I sincerely hope that the fine spirit of cooperation which has brought such successful accomplishments to the auxiliaries in the past will continue in the future.

MRS. LEONARD D. OFFIELD